

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

ARA-06 /059 W

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P R 141740Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6824

USIA WASHDC

INFO AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PROP, FR

SUBJECT: FRENCH NEWSPAPER PRINTS LIST OF ALLEGED CIA

PERSONNEL IN PARIS (SECOND DAY)

1. SUMMARY. FRENCH LEFTIST NEWSPAPER LIBERATION WRAPPED UP TO-PART SERIES ON CIA TODAY BY PUBLISHING MORE NAMES AND SEVERAL RELATED STORIES, INCLUDING COMMENTS OF FRENCH POLITICAL FIGURES. FRENCH MEDIA, ESPECIALLY RADIO, SHOWED LIVELY INTEREST IN STORY. COMMENT WAS MIXED BUT LINE OF REASONING THAT CONDEMNED CIA FOR BEING HERE SHOWED UP VERY LITTLE. EMBASSY CONTINUED NO COMMENT, WITH STATEMENT BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN RELIEVING MUCH OF THE PRESSURE FROM NEWSMEN FOR US TO SAY SOMETHING. END SUMMARY.

2

THE EXTREME LEFT-WING DAILY LIBERATION TODAY FEATURED A SECOND LIST, THIS TIME OF 12 NAMES, OF ALLEGED CIA PERSONNEL WORKING IN PARIS. SUB-HEAD OF LEAD STORY: "IN WASHINGTON, CIA "WORRIED", DOES NOT DENY OUR INFORMATION." THE STORY SAYS THAT THE CIA SYSTEMATICALLY USES SECRECY TO ATTACK LIBERTY, SO THAT "THE REVELATION

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OF ITS CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES TAKES THE CHARACTER OF A

WORK OF PUBLIC HEALTH".

3. ANOTHER STORY ON PAGE 3, DISCUSSES THE ROLE OF THE CIA IN ITALY. MUCH OF THIS IS FROM U.S. PRESS REPORTS. THE STORY ALSO NOTES THAT PHILIP AGEE HAS SAID THE NAMES OF 45 CIA PERSONNEL WILL SOON BE PUBLISHED IN ITALY.

4. IN STILL ANOTHER PAGE 3 STORY, UNDER THE HEADLINE "REACTIONS", ALEXANDRE SANGUINETTE, MEMBER OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE UDR, IS QUOTED AS SAYING "MY SENTIMENT IS THAT A NATION THAT WANTS TO BE INDEPENDENT AND FREE IN HER INSTITUTIONS MUST CHASE OFF ITS TERRITORY ALL ESPIONAGE AGENTS OF WHATEVER POWER, AND PARTICULARLY THE BIGGER ONES. I THINK THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR SHOULD SEE TO THIS. HAD I BEEN AT INTERIOR MYSELF I WOULD HAVE TAKEN CARE OF THIS A LONG TIME AGO ..." IN THE SAME STORY, CLAUDE ESTIER OF THE SOCIALIST PARTY SAYS THAT HE HAS BEEN ABLE TO VERIFY THAT THE INFORMATION IN THE LIBERATION STORY IS DATED BUT ESSENTIALLY ACCURATE AND SHOWS THAT FRANCE HAS NOT BEEN SPARED THE CIA ACTIVITIES, OF WHICH ONE HAS BEEN THE CONSEQUENCES IN CHILE, PORTUGAL AND ITALY. HE SAYS HIS "COMRADE", GEORGES FILLOUS, WILL ASK QUESTIONS ABOUT THIS IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY. HUMANITE TOLD LIBERATION BY PHONE THAT SINCE THEY HAD NO MEANS TO VERIFY THE LIBERATION INFORMATION, THEY WOULD NOT USE IT IN HUMANITE.

5. THE STORY HAS NOT YET BEEN USED ON FRENCH TV BUT HAS BEEN A MAJOR TOPIC ON RADION NEWS. IN INTERVIEW ON TWO STATIONS, ROGER WYBOT, FORMER BOSS OF THE FRENCH COUNTER-INTELLIGENCE, SAID THE LIST PUBLISHED BY LIBERATION APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN PICKED UP FROM AN EMBASSY PHONE DIRECTLY AND WAS THEREFORE NOT A RELIABLE GUIDE. HE ALSO CALLED THE PUBLICATION "A CONTEMPTIBLE DEED AIMED AT PROMPTING FANATICS TO ATTACK AMERICAN DIPLOMATES." FIGARO, IN A FRONT-PAGE COMMENTARY, SAYS THAT "EMBASSIES CONSTITUTE ONE OF THE BEST KNOWN SOURCES OF INTELLIGENCE... BUT THE AGENTS IN SUCH DIPLOMATIC POSTS, WHICH ARE VERY CLOSELY WATCHED, ARE MOST LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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CAREFUL NOT TO INDULGE IN THE SLIGHTEST ILLEGAL ACTIVITY, SUCH AS THE FORMATION OF NETS OR POLITICAL PLOTTING. FOR SUCH MATTERS THERE EXIST -- THIS IS CERTAIN -- OTHER MORE DISCREET MEANS OF ACTION... OTHER PAPERS CARRY THE STORY, WHEN AT ALL, ON INSIDE PAGES.

6. AMERICAN NEWSMEN PRESSED HARD ON TUESDAY FOR SOME COMMENT BY EMBASSY, OR INFORMATION ON WHETHER THE

PEOPLE NAMED DID OR DID NOT WORK HERE. EVEN THOUGH NAMES OF ALL EMBASSY PERSONNEL ARE LISTED IN UNCLASSIFIED TELEPHONE BOOK, WE FIGURED FEW PEOPLE ACTUALLY POSSESSED BOOK AND HELD TO NO COMMENT ON ALL SUCH QUESTIONS, REFERRING CALLERS TO SPOKESMEN IN WASHINGTON. WE ANSWERED ONLY SUCH QUESTIONS AS HOW MANY PEOPLE WORK AT EMBASSY, ETC. SUBSEQUENT STATEMENTS BY DEPARTMENT SPOKESMAN WAS VERY HELPFUL IN RELIEVING PRESSURE AT THIS END.

7. NAMES PUBLISHED IN SECOND-DAY STORY WERE : LEWIS SEVIER, JAMES MURPHY, BARBARA COLE, MARGARET FISHER, DONALD BOWMAN, JOHN WILCOX, MARGARET PARKE, MICHAEL MCBRIDE, JAMES CORRIGAN, NANCY CAMPBELL, SUZANNE AMIANO, LINDA CESSNA.

8. COMMENT: SO FAR, THE LIBERATION STORY APPEARS TO BE CREATING MORE OF A SECURITY THAN A PUBLIC RELATIONS PROBLEM. WE HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT THERE HAS BEEN LITTLE HIGH-LEVEL ATTENTION TO THE MATTER AND THAT THE FRENCH PUBLIC, ALREADY HARDENED BY PREVIOUS PRESS REPORTS OF CIA AND OTHER INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES, IS NEITHER OUTRAGED NOR SURPRISED.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PRESS COMMENTS, ALLEGATIONS, ESPIONAGE AGENTS  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 14 JAN 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** morefirh  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Office:** ACTION EUR  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** morefirh  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 10 FEB 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <10 FEB 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <20 APR 2004 by morefirh>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FRENCH NEWSPAPER PRINTS LIST OF ALLEGED CIA PERSONNEL IN PARIS (SECOND DAY)  
**TAGS:** PROP, FR, CIA  
**To:** STATE USIA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006